



Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Selectmen

Date: Monday, June 9, 2014
Time: 6:00 p.m.
Place: McCourt Social Hall, Memorial Town Hall, Spencer, MA
Present: Chair Pepe, Vice Chair Fritze, Clerk G. Woodbury, Members Stevens & C. Woodbury, and Administrator Gaudette

At 6:00 p.m. Chairman Woodbury called the meeting to order and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Minutes

A motion to approve the minutes of the Business Meeting of May 28, 2014 (G. Woodbury/ C. Woodbury) passed 5/0.

Citizen Input

Bill Shemeth, Chair of the Parks & Recreation noted that he received donations for Parks and Rec in the amount of \$4,000.

Don Berthiaume reported that unless \$10,000 is raised very soon, the annual Fireworks display will not take place this year.

Communications

None

New Business

Action Item: Easement Relocation – Paul's Drive

Administrator Gaudette reported that Webster First Bank owns lots on Paul's Drive and since the time of purchase, zoning requirements changed reducing the lot size, thereby making the existing lots unbuildable. The Bank is proposing to relocate an easement granted to the Snowbirds Snowmobile Club which will allow them to combine parcels and create a buildable lot. Michael Lussier, a representative with Webster First Bank was present for the discussion and has spoken with the Snowbirds and said they have no objections to the relocation. If the Board approves, a new plan will be recorded at the Registry of Deeds.

A motion to approve the request to relocate the 20 foot recreation easement as shown on the plan as presented (G. Woodbury/Fritze) passed 5/0.

Action Item: Road Race Approval for MHPI

Mr. Paul Lemieux, Race Director for MHPI was present to request approval for race route and to hang a banner across Main St. for the MHPI Road Race scheduled for September 13, 2014. Chief Darrin approved the route. MHPI will hire police detail.

A motion to approve the MHPI Road Race route and banner scheduled for September 13th, 2014 (G. Woodbury/Fritze) passed 5/0.

Action Item: Vote to Dissolve the DPHS Building Committee

The Town Clerk requested the DPHS committee be dissolved due to inactivity.

A motion to dissolve the DPHS Building Committee (C. Woodbury/Fritze) passed 5/0.

Old Business

Discussion: Fire Department Training – Chief Parsons

Chief Parsons was present to clarify concerns relative to services no longer being provided by the Fire Department due to the reduction in hours and training. He explained during the Municipal Services Review that if funding for training was reduced or lost, the Department would lose the ability to provide certain services. Communities do not provide services without the benefit of ongoing training. There is the concern of liability if a person is not properly trained and something goes wrong. The Chief pointed out that technical rescue is moving toward regionalization.

The hours for the Fire Department Clerk will be changed to mirror Town Hall operating hours. Inspections will take place on a 1 day per week schedule.

Action Item: Policy Adoption – Health Insurance “Opt-Out” Program

Administrator Gaudette highlighted changes on the draft policy as discussed during the last meeting.

A motion to adopt the Health Insurance “Opt-Out” Program as written (Stevens/C. Woodbury) passed 5/0.

Action Item: Vote to Amend Class II License for George Ragsdale

Mr. Ragsdale currently holds a Class II license for 100 cars at 322-324 Main St. Small Car Clinic was approved for a Class II license for 30 cars at 322 Main St., contingent upon Mr. Ragsdale relinquishing his license at 322 Main St. C Woodbury suggested reducing Mr. Ragsdale’s license to 70 cars, however after discussion the Board agreed to approve the 100 cars for Mr. Ragsdale, noting there is more than enough room on the lot and no benefit to restrict it.

A motion to amend the Class II License for George Ragsdale, currently for 322-324 Main St. to reflect only the 324 Main St. address for 100 cars, (Stevens/C. Woodbury) passed 4/0. G. Woodbury recused himself.

Town Administrator Report

Discussion: FY2015 SEBRSD Budget

Administrator Gaudette reported that the School Committee has the opportunity to vote to revise the budget at their meeting on June 10th. The Town has \$117,406 available in free cash that can be utilized to allow the District to move forward with purchase of computer upgrades. He advised the Board to place an article to transfer this amount on the Special Town Meeting Warrant. Town Meeting vote will specify this amount must be used for computers and will prevent the amount from being added to the operating assessment.

A motion to authorize Administrator Gaudette to inform Superintendent Malvey that \$117,406 will be placed on a STM Warrant for the purpose of funding computer upgrades (G. Woodbury/Fritze) passed 5/0.

The Administrator drafted a letter to the SEBRSD to inform them that the Senate proposed a 90% reimbursement rate for transportation. This amounts to an additional \$145,000 in new revenue which can be used to reduce the assessment. He asked the Board to authorize sending the letter in hopes of working towards meeting the minimum local contribution assessment.

A motion to authorize the Administrator to send the letter as written (G. Woodbury/C. Woodbury) passed 5/0.

Action Item: Vote to Set Special Town Meeting Date

A motion to set the Special Town Meeting for June 26, 2014 at 7 pm (C. Woodbury/Stevens) passed 5/0.

A motion to open the Special Town Meeting Warrant (G. Woodbury/Fritze) passed 5/0.

The Board agreed to hold a special meeting on June 12th in order to close the warrant.

Mr. Gaudette mentioned that the Board has the opportunity to place an article on the Warrant for Town services. There was discussion on having them separate, or combining with the School article. Mr. G. Woodbury said he is in favor of working to get Town services restored. The Administrator will categorize services and draft separate ballot questions for the Board to review on Thursday.

Discussion: MGL c. 70 Mobilization Update

There has been interest from other communities to participate in a symposium with MMA and CMRPC. A consultant may be hired to meet with DESE in the future.

Future Meetings: June 16 Workshop Agenda Items

- Fish & Game Lease for Senior Center

- CDBG Property Assessment Workshop - public forum will be held
- Town Hall Positions Update – the Veteran’s Agent position will continue to be shared with Rutland and E. Brookfield
- Meeting Schedule - will move to Wednesday’s beginning in September

Board Liaison Reports

Mr. Pepe said he attended a teacher’s negotiation session. He also spoke with Bob Knight from the Agricultural Association; they are interested in a Farmer’s Market at the Spencer Fairgrounds.

Citizen input

Bob Cirba, 23 Summit St. said he is concerned over the reduction in services for the Town and asked the Board not to combine an Override with the School. He also requests a change in voting hours to open a 7 am and close at 7 pm.

Carl Kwiatkowski, Meadow Rd., asked how much the \$40 million Governor’s road improvement budget will go to Spencer. Mr. Gaudette said the amount is \$75,000, which will not go very far.

Board Member and Staff Comments

Council on Aging Director Pam Woodbury passed her certification with a score of 100. She is now a certified Senior Director. The Board extends their congratulations.

Mr. Stevens will hold office hours from 7 to 8 pm on June 10th at the Town Hall.

The meeting was adjourned 8:02 pm. All were in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Brenda Savoie
Administrative Assistant

Referenced Materials